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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/690,148	10/21/2003	James G. Couillard	SP03-076	6024

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EXAMINER

WILLIAMS, JOSEPH L

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2879

DATE MAILED: 04/17/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/690,148

Applicant(s)

COUILLARD, JAMES G.

Examiner

Joseph L. Williams

Art Unit

2879

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 March 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 9-20 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 10/03 & 8/05
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Claims 9-20 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected Group, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Election was made **without** traverse in the reply filed on 15 March 2005.

Applicant's election without traverse of claims 1-8 in the reply filed on 15 March 2005 is acknowledged.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Regarding claim 1, the phrase "that has certain components added or removed" is vague. It is not clear what is to be included or excluded by the phrase. In other words, one cannot ascertain the metes and bounds of the claim.

Due to their dependency, claims 2-8 are necessarily included in this rejection.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the

Art Unit: 2879

applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Brown et al. (US 6,835,950 B2).

Regarding claim 1, Brown ('950) teaches in figures 5 and 6, and in the appropriate column and lines, an OLED structure (100), comprising: a substantially flexible substrate (110); and at least one barrier layer (120), each of which includes a glass layer (read flexible glass, parts 115 and 125, see column 9, lines 28-30) that has certain components added or removed, wherein the barrier layer substantially prevents contaminants from permeating a layer of organic material or the OLED structure (column 5, lines 46-48).

Please note that for the purpose of this rejection, it is the Examiner's contention that the flexible glass taught by Brown ('950) has "certain components added or removed" which make the glass flexible.

Regarding claim 2, Brown ('950) teaches the contaminants are water vapor and oxygen (see column 5, lines 46-48).

Regarding claim 3, Brown ('950) teaches a plurality of the barrier layers is disposed beneath the OLED structure (figure 6, parts 111a-c and 112a-c).

Regarding claim 4, Brown ('950) teaches at least one barrier layer is disposed beneath the OLED structure and at least one other barrier layer is disposed over the OLED structure (figure 6, parts 11a-c and 112a-c for bottom; parts 121a-b and 122a-b for the top).

Regarding claim 5, Brown ('950) teaches the barrier layer is a glass material (read "flexible glass" part 125).

Regarding claim 6, Brown ('950) teaches the glass material is $\text{Mg}_x\text{Al}_y\text{Si}_z\text{O}$ or Aluminoborosilicate glass (read flexible glass from Schott Glass Technologies).

Regarding claim 7, Brown ('950) teaches the substrate is comprised of one or more of polycarbonate, polyolefin, polyether sulfone (PES), polyethylene terephthalate (PET), polyethylene naphthalate (PEN), polyimide (column 9, lines 41-50).

Regarding claim 8, Brown ('950) teaches the substrate is comprised of one or more of paper, metal foils, and fabric (column 9, lines 28-29).

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joseph L. Williams whose telephone number is (571) 272-2465. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (6:30 AM-3:00 PM).

Art Unit: 2879

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nimeshkumar D. Patel can be reached on (571) 272-2457. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Joseph L. Williams
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2879